JJDPA's Four Core Protections

- 1. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders: Youth charged with a status offense may not be held in secure detention or confinement.
- 2. Sight and Sound Separation: When youth are placed in an adult jail or lock-up, "sight and sound" contact with adult inmates is prohibited. This protection seeks to shelter youth from threats, intimidation, or other forms of psychological abuse and physical assault.
- 3. Jail and Lock-Up Removal: Youth charged with a delinquent offense and those awaiting trial on a criminal charge may not be detained in adult jails and/or lock-ups except for limited periods of time before or after a county hearing.
- 4. Racial and Ethnic Disparities: States monitor the disproportionately high contact of youth of color at key contact points in the juvenile justice system. This protection seeks to make the system equitable and unbiased.



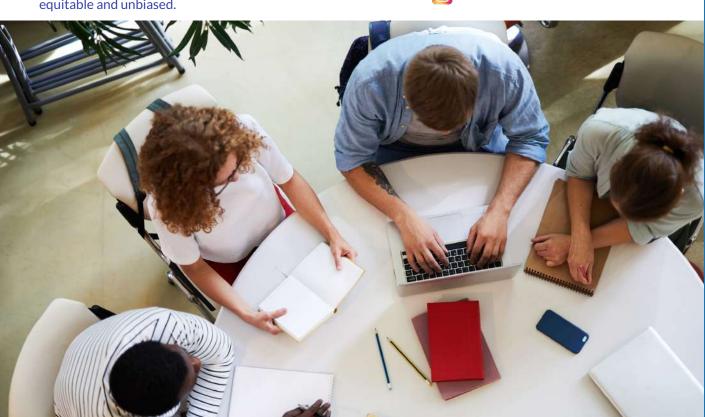
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YOUTH SAG MEMBERS

The JJDPA creates four core protections for young people in the juvenile justice system. States must comply with the protections in order to receive federal funding under the statute. The purpose of each core protection is to safeguard youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system and to ensure appropriate, safe, and rehabilitative treatment. Individually, the core protections target different outcomes. Collectively, they create a framework to protect some of our most vulnerable youth.

Under the JJDPA, all states, territories, and the District of Columbia are required to have specific individuals who are knowledgeable about juvenile justice and delinquency prevention appointed by the Governor/Chief Executive to serve on the SAG. The members of the SAG provide input on their state's use of funds provided under the JJDPA. The SAG is also responsible for supporting JJDPA compliance and providing information about JJDPA protections to state and local policy makers.

"I believe building these youth-adult partnerships is a way we can eliminate the possibilities of injustice form happening in our justice system. They're important because it's a way of holding the system to a standard by bringing youth and adults together."

-Aaron Toleafoa, Washington Youth SAG Member

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Role of the SAG

- Develop and review the State Three-Year JJDPA Plan, which outlines the state's priorities and work areas.
- Submit recommendations to the Governor/Chief Executive and state legislature for improving your state's juvenile justice system
- Seek regular input from youths currently involved in the system and their families
- Review and comment on grant applications for JJDPA and related federal funding awards
- Award money to juvenile justice programs.

Effective Participation

Each SAG is responsible for ensuring that its state/territory, as well as all local jurisdictions, comply with the JJDPA's four core protections. Get more involved by joining or forming a youth subcommittee. Find a mentor on the SAG to help with questions you may have.

Responsibilities

- 1. Monitor State Compliance with the Four Core protections
- 2. Educate your Legislature
- 3. Empower and Mobilize Youth by Cultivating Relationships, Spreading the Word, and Ensuring Accessibility